

Message Text

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FOR MEZVINSKY

FOLLOWING REPEAT SANTIAGO 3697 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
USMISSION GENEVA MAY 16.
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 3697

DEPT PASS DEPT OF LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, ELAB, ILO, CI

SUBJECT: ILO: ONSITE INVESTIGATION IN CHILE

REF: GENEVA 7377

1. SUMMARY: WITH GOC COOPERATION ILO STAFFER SEGOVIA
COMPLETED ONSITE INVESTIGATION MAY 15 BUT DEFINITIVE CON-
CLUSIONS AWAIT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PRESENTLY BEING
PREPARED BY DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION LEADERS. SEGOVIA PLANS
TO MAKE HIS REPORT MAY 25 TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE UNION
FREEDOM. RESULTS WILL PROBABLY SHOW COMPLIANCE WITH
SOME ILO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON BANISHMENTS, DE-
TENTIONS AND WILLINGNESS TO MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH THE
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COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, NEW AVENUES OF INQUIRY CONCERNING RECENT
GOC VIOLATIONS OF LABOR FREEDOM MAY OPEN. END SUMMARY.

2. ILO STAFF MEMBER LUIS SEGOVIA CONDUCTED AN ONSITE
INVESTIGATION OF GOC COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION AND CONCILIATION IN
MATERIAL RELATING TO TRADE UNION FREEDOM MAY 5-16.

HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN GOC COMPLIANCE WITH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING DISAPPEARANCES, DETENTIONS AND BANISHMENTS OF TRADE UNION LEADERS. HE ALSO INVESTIGATED GOC ACCEPTANCE OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON PERMITTING NON-GOVERNMENT GROUPS TO HAVE SEPARATE MAY 1 ACTIVITIES AND HEARD EVIDENCE ABOUT THE EFFECT MAY 1 DETENTIONS HAVE HAD ON TRADE UNION ACTIVITY. SEGOVIA SAID THAT HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WERE RELATED TO SITUATIONS IN VIOLATION OF ILO CONVENTIONS #87 AND 98 (TRADE UNION FREEDOM AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING), CONVENTIONS WHICH THE GOC HAS NOT SIGNED. SEGOVIA TOLD LABATT THAT HE DID NOT DISCUSS LACK OF GOC COMPLIANCE WITH ILO CONVENTIONS #111 (EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION) WHICH THE GOC DID SIGN AS THIS WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AND THE COMMISSION ON INQUIRY.

3. SEGOVIA WAS PLEASED WITH THE COOPERATION HE RECEIVED FROM THE GOC IN PERMITTING HIM FREE ACCESS TO ALL SECTORS OF CHILEAN SOCIETY. SEGOVIA SAID THAT HE MET WITH GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING THE MINISTER OF LABOR) AND BUSINESS OFFICIALS. HE ALSO SPOKE WITH A GROUP OF DEMOCRATIC COPPER LEADERS WHO LOST THEIR JOBS AT EL TENIENTE MINE AS A RESULT OF BEING BANISHED FOR A MONTH IN LATE 1977. SEGOVIA MET PRO-GOVERNMENT LABOR LEADERS AS WELL AS COMMUNIST LABOR. IN ADDITION, HE SPOKE TO THE "GROUP OF TEN" (DINAMICOS) WHO PLAN TO FORWARD ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING NEW VIOLATIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY THE GOC OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS. SEGOVIA SAID THAT THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ILO WOULD TRANSMIT THE INFORMATION TO HIM AS SOON AS IT BECAME AVAILABLE.

4. SEGOVIA NOTED THAT THE GOC COMPLIANCE WITH SOME ILO RECOMMENDATIONS IS GOOD. HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM OF DISAPPEARED PERSONS IS VERY DELICATE. SEGOVIA IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS OF NEW VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS WHICH MAY RESULT IN ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIONS. OF CONTINUING CONCERN IS THE LACK OF MOVEMENT ON DECREETING NEW LEGISLATION TO REPLACE DECREE LAW 198 WHICH SEVERELY RESTRICTS TRADE UNION RIGHTS.

5. COMMENT: SEGOVIA APPEARS TO TAKE HIS JOB VERY SERIOUSLY AND WAS SOUBT OUT BY COMMUNIST, GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRATIC LABOR GROUPS. THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION WILL PROBABLY SHOW A POSITIVE COMPLIANCE WITH ILO RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING DETENTIONS AND BANISHMENTS BUT MAY OPEN UP NEW AVENUES OF INEVESTIGATION CONCERNING NEW VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS.
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